

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously Presented) An optical device, comprising:

a plurality of optical modulator units, each having a plurality of liquid-crystal panels and a plurality of exit polarizer plates arranged to be heat insulated from the plurality of liquid-crystal panels; and

a color-combining optical unit to combine parts of light modulated by the plurality of optical modulator units, the color combining optical unit having a plurality of incident surfaces; the plurality of exit polarizer plates of the plurality of optical modulator units each being separated in an optical axis direction, to have two exit polarizer plates including a first exit polarizer plate arranged at an exit side and a second exit polarizer plate arranged at an incident side of each incident surface.
2. (Previously Presented) The optical device of claim 1, each first exit polarizer plate arranged to be thermally insulated from each corresponding second exit polarizer plate.
3. (Previously Presented) The optical device of claim 2, further comprising for each incident surface of the color-combining optical unit:

a first heat conductor plate;

the color-combining optical unit bonded with the first heat conductor plate on each incident surface ; and

the first exit polarizer plate is bonded on the first heat conductor plate and attached with a plurality of heat-insulation pins projecting toward the liquid-crystalpanel; and

on the plurality of heat-insulation pins, a polarizer-plate holding frame to hold a second heat conductor plate bonded with the second exit polarizer plate and a liquid-crystal

panel holding frame holding the liquid-crystal panel are mutually fixed with a predetermined spacing.

4. (Previously Presented) The optical device of claim 1, the first exit polarizer plates being thermally connected to corresponding second exit polarizer plates.

5. (Previously Presented) The optical device of claim 4, further comprising for each incident surface of the color-combining optical unit:

a first heat conductor plate;

the color-combining optical unit is bonded with the first heat conductor plate on each incident surface and

the first exit polarizer plate is bonded on the first heat conductor plate and attached with a polarizer-plate holding frame holding a second heat conductor plate bonded with the second exit polarizer plate,

the first heat conductor plate or the polarizer-plate holding frame being attached with a plurality of heat-insulation pins projecting toward the liquid-crystal panel; and

a liquid-crystal panel holding frame holding the liquid-crystal panel being fixed on the plurality of heat-insulation pins.

6. (Previously Presented) The optical device of claim 1, further comprising:
a first heat conductor plate thermally connected to a heat conductive block which is adjacently connected to the color-combining optical unit; and

a plurality of liquid-crystal panel holding frames being thermally joined to an optical component housing supporting the color-combining optical unit.

7. (Previously Presented) The optical device as claimed in claim 3, the plurality of polarizer-plate holding frames are thermally connected with each other.

8. (Previously Presented) The optical device of claim 7, the plurality of polarizer-plate holding frames are thermally connected by heat conductive rubber.

9. (Previously Presented) The optical device of claim 7, the plurality of polarizer-plate holding frames are thermally connected by a plurality of heat conductive layers adhered to mutually adjacent polarizer-plate holding frames and a plurality of heat conductive members interposed between the heat conductive layers.

10. (Previously Presented) The optical device of claim 1, the second exit polarizer plate has a cross transmissivity set at a transmissivity greater than 50% of a total transmissivity.

11. (Previously Presented) The optical device of claim 3, the first heat conductor plate being formed by a member higher in heat conductivity than the second heat conductor plate.

12. (Previously Presented) An optical device comprising:
a plurality of optical modulator units each having a plurality of liquid-crystal panels and a plurality of exit polarizer plates arranged to be heat insulated from the plurality of liquid-crystal panels, t
an optical modulator unit to be passed by a greatest intensity of light among the plurality of optical modulator units including two exit polarizer plates arranged separately in an optical axis direction.

13. (Previously Presented) A projector, comprising:
an illumination device to emit illumination light;
a color-separation optical system to separate illumination light emitted from the illumination device into a plurality of color lights; and
a plurality of optical devices to modulate color lights separated by the color-separation optical system and form an image,
the optical device being the optical device as claimed in claim 1.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~The optical device~~The projector of claim 13, each first exit polarizer plate arranged to be thermally insulated from each corresponding second exit polarizer plate.

15. (Currently Amended) ~~The optical device~~The projector of claim 14, further comprising for each incident surface of the color-combining optical unit:

a first heat conductor plate;

the color-combining optical unit bonded with the first heat conductor plate on each incident surface; and

the first exit polarizer plate is bonded on the first heat conductor plate and attached with a plurality of heat-insulation pins projecting toward the liquid-crystal panel; and

on the plurality of heat-insulation pins, a polarizer-plate holding frame to hold a second heat conductor plate bonded with the second exit polarizer plate and a liquid-crystal panel holding frame holding the liquid-crystal panel are mutually fixed with a predetermined spacing.

16. (Currently Amended) ~~The optical device~~The projector of claim 13, the first exit polarizer plates being thermally connected to corresponding second exit polarizer plates.

17. (Currently Amended) ~~The optical device~~The projector of claim 16, further comprising for each incident surface of the color-combining optical unit:

a first heat conductor plate;

the color-combining optical unit is bonded with the first heat conductor plate on each incident surface and

the first exit polarizer plate is bonded on the first heat conductor plate and attached with a polarizer-plate holding frame holding a second heat conductor plate bonded with the second exit polarizer plate,

the first heat conductor plate or the polarizer-plate holding frame being attached with a plurality of heat-insulation pins projecting toward the liquid-crystal panel; and a liquid-crystal panel holding frame holding the liquid-crystal panel being fixed on the plurality of heat-insulation pins.

18. (Currently Amended) ~~The optical device~~The projector of claim 13, further comprising:

a first heat conductor plate thermally connected to a heat conductive block which is adjacently connected to the color-combining optical unit; and

a plurality of liquid-crystal panel holding frames being thermally joined to an optical component housing supporting the color-combining optical unit.

19. (Currently Amended) ~~The optical device~~The projector as claimed in claim 15, the plurality of polarizer-plate holding frames are thermally connected with each other.

20. (Currently Amended) ~~The optical device~~The projector of claim 19, the plurality of polarizer-plate holding frames are thermally connected by heat conductive rubber.

21. (Currently Amended) ~~The optical device~~The projector of claim 19, the plurality of polarizer-plate holding frames are thermally connected by a plurality of heat conductive layers adhered to mutually adjacent polarizer-plate holding frames and a plurality of heat conductive members interposed between the heat conductive layers.

22. (Currently Amended) ~~The optical device~~The projector of claim 13, the second exit polarizer plate has a cross transmissivity set at a transmissivity greater than 50% of a total transmissivity.

23. (Currently Amended) ~~The optical device~~The projector of claim 15, the first heat conductor plate being formed by a member higher in heat conductivity than the second heat conductor plate.

24. (Previously Presented) A projector, comprising:
- an illumination device to emit illumination light;
 - a color-separation optical system to separate illumination light emitted from the illumination device into a plurality of color lights; and
 - a plurality of optical devices to modulate color lights separated by the color-separation optical system and form an image,
- the optical device being the optical device as claimed in claim 12.